

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DOE-15 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-01 NSC-05 SOE-02
SS-15 OES-07 OIC-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12
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-----023580 190002Z /65

P 182345Z MAY 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1442
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02023

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UN, TSPA, AU
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH AUSTRIAN MISSION
ON OUTER SPACE AGENDA

REF: USUN 2925

1. SUMMARY. ON MAY 18 MISOFFS DISCUSSED WITH AUSTRIAN
DCM ORTNER AND SUCHARIPA THE AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-
FIRST SESSION OF THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE
(JUNE 26 - JULY 5). MAJOR TOPICS COVERED WERE
THE DRAFT MOON TREATY TEXT, NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES
IN OUTER SPACE, THE UN CONFERENCE ON OUTER SPACE,
AND THE PARTICIPATION OF ADDITIONAL MEMBER STATES
IN THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE. END SUMMARY.

2. MISOFF EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF THE AUSTRIAN
ROLE IN DRAFTING A FULL MOON TREATY TEXT AT THE MARCH
SESSION OF THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE. HE ASKED FOR AN
APPRAISAL OF THE POSSIBILITY OF THE OSC COMPLETING
POLISHING THE TEXT DURING THE UPCOMING SESSION AND
FORWARDING IT TO THE GA IN FALL. WITH A
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RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL AND OPENING FOR
SIGNATURE EARLY IN 1979. MISOFF OBSERVED THAT AN
AUSTRIAN EFFORT DURING THE OSC SESSION TO MOVE THE
TREATY FORWARD MIGHT BE WELL RECEIVED IN VIEW OF
AUSTRIA'S CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE, PROVIDED
THAT THE ESSENTIAL READINESS OF GOVERNMENTS TO
AGREE TO THE SUBSTANCE OF THE CURRENT TREATY TEXT

HAD DEVELOPED OR COULD BE STIMULATED. SUCHARIPA EXPRESSED "CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM" AND THOUGHT COMPLETING WORK ON THE TEXT WORTH A SERIOUS TRY. HE CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT HIS MISSION HAD NOT YET RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS. HE EXPECTED THE DRAFT TEXT WOULD END UP WITH SOME "TECHNICAL CHANGES" IN THE LANGUAGE. MISOFF SUGGESTED THAT INDIA'S WILLINGNESS TO FOREGO A PRE-REGIME COMMERCIAL EXPLOITATION MORATORIUM WAS THE KEY FACTOR IN REACHING AGREEMENT ON A MOON TREATY TEXT AND WONDERED WHETHER OSC CHAIRMAN JANKOWITSCH COULD APPROACH INDIAN PERMREP JAIPAL ON THE MATTER. ORTNER THANKED MISOFF FOR THE SUGGESTION AND TOOK IT UNDER ADVISEMENT. MISOFF ALSO REMARKED THAT PRESENCE AT THE OSC OF LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN WYZNER COULD BE HELPFUL.

3. MISOFF RAISED FOR DISCUSSION THE POSSIBILITY, DEPENDING UPON THE INDIAN ATTITUDE, OF CONVOKING AN INFORMAL GROUP OF INTERESTED PARTIES (NOT SOMETHING SO FORMAL AS A DRAFTING GROUP) TO TRY TO REACH FINAL AGREEMENT ON THE MOON TREATY TEXT. AUSTRIANS SEEMED RECEPTIVE. IT WAS NOTED THAT LIKELY MEMBERS OF THE INFORMAL GROUP WOULD BE INDIA, EGYPT, BRAZIL, MEXICO, ONE OF THE NEW LA EQUATORIAL MEMBERS, HUNGARY, THE SOVIET UNION, THE US AND AUSTRIA.

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4. CONTINUING TO STRESS HE WAS SPEAKING ON A PERSONAL BASIS, MISOFF SUGGESTED A NUMBER OF DRAFTING CHANGES IN THE TREATY TEXT: (A) ADDING THE PHRASE "AND OTHER CELESTIAL BODIES" IN THE FOURTH PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH; (B) SUBSTITUTING "AND" FOR "OF" IN ARTICLE IV(L), LAST SENTENCE, FOLLOWING "LIVING CONDITIONS"; (C) SUBSTITUTING "PRACTICABLE" IN PLACE OF "POSSIBLE" IN ARTICLE IV(2), 2D SENTENCE; AND (D) IN ARTICLE XVIII, LAST SENTENCE, EITHER DELETING "AND" FOLLOWING "OF THAT ARTICLE" OR SUBSTITUTING "AND TAKE INTO ACCOUNT" VICE "AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT". MISOFF ALSO NOTED HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE FINAL SENTENCE OF ARTICLE XV WHICH SPEAKS OF UNIDENTIFIED "APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL PROCEDURES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS" IN THE CONTEXT OF ASSURING COMPLIANCE WITH TREATY OBLIGATIONS. HE CAUTIONED THAT WASHINGTON HAS NOT YET DETERMINED ITS VIEWS WITH RESPECT TO THE TREATY TEXT AND THAT THE FOREGOING COMMENTS CANNOT BE TAKEN AS A US POSITION. SUCHARIPA REPLIED THAT HE BELIEVED THE ARTICLE XV LANGUAGE TO BE DESIGNED TO REFER TO THE POSSIBILITY OF REFERRING AN ALLEGATION

OF TREATY VIOLATION TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL BUT HE
WOULD CHECK WITH VIENNA.

5. SUCHARIPA NOTED THAT IN A RECENT CONVERSATION
SOVIET MISOFF ORDZHONIKDIZE SAID SMUN HAS NOT YET
RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS ON THE MOON TREATY BUT BELIEVED
THE TEXT WAS SUBSTANTIALLY "O.K."

6. SUCHARIPA ALSO NOTED THAT ORDZHONIKIDZE, LIKEWISE
WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS ON THE ITEM CONCERNING USE OF
NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN SPACE, HOPED MOSCOW WOULD
PROVE TO BE "MORE FLEXIBLE". SUCHARIPA SAID HE HAD

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INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02023

CAUTIONED ORDZHONIKIDZE THAT IF THE SOVIETS DID NOT
GIVE GROUND BY AGREEING TO CONSIDERATION OF THE ITEM
BY A WORKING GROUP (MOST PROBABLY UNDER THE
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE),
THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE ISSUE COULD BE RAISED
IN A CONFRONTATIONAL WAY AND BROUGHT TO A VOTE IN THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION IN AUTUMN. ORZHONIKIDZE HAD
REPLIED SMUN WAS AWARE OF THAT POSSIBILITY.

7. SUCHARIPA DID NOT EXPECT A UN CONFERENCE ON OUTER
SPACE TO BE HELD BEFORE 1981 OR 1982. HE LISTED MEXICO,
INDIA AND THE SOVIET UNION AS POSSIBLE HOST COUNTRIES,
AND IN THE LIGHTEST POSSIBLE WAY MENTIONED AUSTRIA
AS WELL. (IN THIS CONNECTION WE WOULD NOT EXCLUDE
A SOVIET INVITATION TO HOST THE CONFERENCE IN 1982,
WHICH WILL BE THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF SPUTNIK I,

BUT MADE NO COMMENT IN THIS REGARD.)

8. SUCHARIPA EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE COMMITTEE'S NEED TO REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 1978 ON THE PARTICIPATION OF ADDITIONAL MEMBER STATES IN THE COMMITTEE. HE NOTED THAT BANGLADESH REMAINED CONFIDENTIAL

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PARTICULARLY INSISTENT ON JOINING THE OSC. MISOFF SUGGESTED THAT AN INTERIM REPORT TO THE EFFECT THAT THE COMMITTEE IS MEANINGFULLY SEIZED OF THE ISSUE SHOULD GET US THROUGH THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY; AUSTRIANS WERE LESS SANGUINE. MISOFF NOTED THAT THE ISSUE MUST BE RAISED IN THE OSC NOW IF A FURTHER INCREASE BEYOND FORTY-SEVEN IS TO BE AVOIDED AND ADDED THAT THE USG WAS CONSIDERING VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES. AUSTRIAN MISOFFS AGREED THAT THE SUBJECT MUST BE DISCUSSED AND SUGGESTED THAT AS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AUSTRIA COULD INCLUDE IN ITS INTRODUCTORY OSC STATEMENT A DISCUSSION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE QUESTION. SUCHARIPA SUGGESTED THAT MISOFF TALK TO THE AUSTRALIAN MISSION, SAYING THAT THE AUSTRALIANS HAVE APPEARED TO BE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO ANY ROTATION PLAN.

9. ORTNER NOTED HIS BELIEF THAT AMB. JANKOWITSCH WOULD LIKE TO REMAIN CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE AND WONDERED WHETHER THE US WOULD SUPPORT JANKOWITSCH. IN RESPONSE TO MISOFF'S QUESTION HE SAID JANKOWITSCH WOULD REMAIN IN HIS UN POST BEYOND THE OSC SESSION INTO MID-JULY, AND THAT HIS SUCCESSOR WOULD BE THOMAS KLESTIL (HEAD OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS BUREAU OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY). MISOFF NOTED THE DELICACY OF THE MATTER, HIGH REGARD FOR AMB. JANKOWITSCH'S CHAIRMANSHIP, AND POSSIBLE CONCERN OVER THE DISTANCE OF HIS NEW POST IN PARIS.

10. UN TODAY CIRCULATED THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT UNDER A/AC.105/218. COPIES POUCHED .
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Message Attributes

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